

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Compl te if Known

Application Number	
Filing Date	September 20, 2001
First Named Inventor	John Castle Simmons
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	

Attorney Docket Number

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
A	US- 6,571,193		5-27-2003	Unuma	
B	US- 6,232,880		5-15-2001	Anderson et al.	
C	US- 5,815,077		9-29-1998	Christiansen	
D	US- 6,047,664		4-11-2000	Lyerly	
E	US- 5,868,103		2-9-2999	Boyd	
F	US- 5,857,433		1-12-1999	Files	
G	US- 6,273,027		8-14-2001	Watson	
H	US- 4,335,682		6-22-1982	Gonda	
I	US- 5,749,324		5-12-1998	Moore	
J	US- 5,351,653		10-4-1994	Marishen	
K	US- 5,809,939		9-22-1998	Robart et al.	
L	US- 5,566,645		10-22-1996	Cole	
M	US- 6,352,053		3-5-2002	Records, et al.	
N	US- 6,591,786		7-15-2003	Davis	
O	US- 5,749,324		5-12-1998	Moore	
P	US- 5,046,453		9-10-1991	Visci	
Q	US- 4,898,120		2-6-1990	Brose	
R	US- 4,919,082		4-24-1990	Tsai	
S	US- 6,430,450		8-6-2002	Bach-y-rita	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.